Mismanagement of social welfare department in awarding old age pension

†2382. DR. A. K. PATEL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to the mismanagement of the social welfare department, certain people are getting pension under old age pension scheme for which they are not entitled;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of the action proposed by Government to check this so that only entitled people are benefited from this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The State/Union Territory Governments implementing the National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS) under the Ministry of Rural Development have been issued clear guidelines by that Ministry, for identifying the beneficiaries, meeting the criteria of destitution to become eligible for the NOAPS. The beneficiaries must be destitutes of 65 years or above, have little or no regular means of subsistence from his/her own sources of income or through financial support from family members or other sources. No specific cases of ineligible persons receiving old age pension due to the mismanagement of Social Welfare Department of State Governments have been brought to the notice of Government India.

Scheme of old age pension to workers in unorganised sector

†2383. SHRI P. K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are formulating a scheme to provide old age pension to crores of workers in the unorganized sector;

(b) the number of aged citizens in the country at present, State-wise; and

(c) the details of the scheme and the annual expenditure likely to be incurred on this?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.